

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 5013

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 OECD PARIS 01127

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LAST LINE OF PARA 3.)

FOR ENDERS AND HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: IEA: STANDING GROUP ON PRODUCER/CONSUMER
RELATIONS, JANUARY 14 SESSION

SUMMARY: AT FIRST SESSION OF SPC, WILTON (LK) PUSHED
GROUP HARD TO DEVELOP CORDINATED CONSUMER POSITION ON
SPONSORSHIP, AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR P/C DIALOGUE. IN
OPPOSITION TO POSITION TAKEN BY US DEL, CHAIRMAN PRESSED
FOR FULL SPC DISCUSSION OF INVESTMENT ISSUES. RE OTHER
POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS AND MODALITIES FOR PREPCOM, CHAIR
KEYED SESSION'S DISCUSSION TO PROPOSALS GIVEN HIM IN AD-
VANCE BY GOF. ALMOST ALL OTHER MEMBERS IN SPC EVINCED
CLEAR DESIRE TO MOVE QUICKLY TO OPENING OF DIALOGUE WITH
PRODUCERS. USDEL STRONGLY REITERATED POSITION ON
SEQUENCE.

2. INVESTMENT: UNDER AGGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP OF UK CHAIR-
MAN (WILTON), GROUP MOVED QUICKLY INTO DETAILED DIS-
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CUSSION OF POINTS CONTAINED IN MEETING AGENDA. WILTON

FOCUSED FIRST ON INVESTMENT QUESTION, POINTING OUT THAT LACK OF US PAPER ON THIS ISSUE SHOULD NOT DETER FINANCIAL EXPERTS AT MEETING FROM DISCUSSION OF INVESTMENT ISSUES. WILTON SAID HE AWARE US WAS NOW PROPOSING THAT INVESTMENT QUESTION BE DISCUSSED IN SEPARATE AD HOC GROUP IN IEA. IN HIS VIEW, HOWEVER, ISSUE OF VENUE HAD CLEARLY BEEN RESOLVED AT LAST GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AND DECISION REACHED AT THAT TIME CHARGED SPC WITH DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES.

3. WILTON THUS SUGGESTED THAT CONSIDERABLE TIME BE DEVOTED TO INVESTMENT QUESTION AT SECOND DAY'S MEETING, FOCUSING ON THOSE ASPECTS OF ISSUE NOT ALREADY BEING DISCUSSED IN OTHER FORA (E.G., SUCH QUESTIONS AS CONSUMER INVESTMENT IN PRODUCER COUNTRIES, PRODUCER COUNTRY INVESTMENTS IN LDCS, ETC). CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT DISCUSSION COULD TAKE PLACE EITHER IN PLENARY OR INITIALLY IN PLENARY AND THEN FINANCIAL EXPERTS COULD RETIRE TO MEET SEPARATELY. ALMOST ALL OTHER DELEGATIONS SUPPORTED CHAIRMAN'S POSITION IN FAVOR OF DISCUSSION OF INVESTMENT ISSUES AT THIS SPC MEETING, WITH FRG, SWISS, UK, ITALY, NETHERLANDS AND JAPAN GIVING PARTICULARLY FIRM SUPPORT. US DELEGATION REITERATED FIRM US POSITION, ALONG LINES STATE 5853, IN OPPOSITION TO SPC DISCUSSION, AT THIS TIME, OF INVESTMENT QUESTION AND CALLED FOR CONSIDERATION OF AD HOC GROUP ESTABLISHMENT AT NEXT GB MEETING. US DELEGATION STRESSED THAT IF SUBJECT WERE DISCUSSED AT SECOND DAY'S MEETING, WHETHER IN PLENARY OR ELSEWHERE US WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

4. IEA DIRECTOR LANTZKE SUGGESTED THAT OECD SECRETARIAT MIGHT PREPARE OVERNIGHT A LIST OF TOPICS IN THIS FIELD WHICH ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION IN OTHER FORA, AND WHICH MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR IEA DISCUSSION. SECRETARIAT COULD PRESENT LIST TO SECOND DAY'S MEETING FOR STUDY BY GROUP AND DECISION ON WHERE TO GO FROM THERE. DANISH DELEGATION (RIBERHOLDT) SUPPORTED LANTZKE EFFORT AT COMPROMISE, POINTING OUT THAT PROCEDURAL PROBLEM EXISTED HERE AND THAT HIS GOVERNMENT FAVORED AD HOC GROUP PROPOSAL OF US. RIBERHOLDT STRESSED HIS VIEW THAT NO CLEAR DECISION HAD YET BEEN TAKEN ON PROCEDURAL ISSUE BY GB.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 OECD PARIS 01127

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AND THAT CHARGE TO SPC WAS SIMPLY TO REVIEW US PAPER. AUSTRIAN DEL SUPPORTED DANISH POSITION AND JAPANESE DEL AGREED THAT AD HOC GROUP PROPOSAL WAS APPROPRIATE SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT GB MEETING. CHAIRMAN SUMMED UP BY SAYING HE COULD SUPPORT LANTZKE PROPOSAL, BUT AT SAME TIME MADE CLEAR HIS VIEW THAT GROUP MUST, IN FACT, DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE TIME TO DISCUSSION OF INVESTMENT QUESTION AT NEXT DAY'S MEETING.

5. PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE: REMAINDER FIRST AFTER-NOON MEETING DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF ATTENDANCE, AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR MEETINGS WITH PRODUCERS, KEYED BY

CHAIRMAN TO WHAT HE UNDERSTOOD TO BE FRENCH POSITION ON THESE ISSUES.

6. WILTON REPORTED RECEIVING CALL FROM FRENCH MONDAY IN LONDON REGARDING ATTENDANCE, AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR PREPARATORY MEETING WITH PRODUCERS. FRENCH VIEWS COMMUNICATED TO WILTON WERE:

(A) ON ATTENDANCE, GOF SUPPORTS YAMANI PROPOSAL FOR TRIPARTITE MEETING OF CONSUMERS, PRODUCERS AND LDCS, I.E., U.S., JAPAN, EC/SAUDI ARABIA, IRAN, ALGERIA, VENEZUELA/BRAZIL, ZAIRE AND INDIA.

(B) ON AGENDA, FRENCH BELIEVE FOUR-POINT AGENDA WILL BE ACCEPTABLE:

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1- GENERAL REVIEW OF WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION TO SET
SCENE FOR SECOND ITEM ON
2- PRICE OF OIL AND SECURITY OF SUPPLY
3- INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS
4- PRICE OF OTHER COMMODITIES
ACCORDING TO WILTON, FRENCH INDICATED THEY .NOT ENTHUS-
IASTIC ABOUT LAST ITEM, BUT BELIEVE PRODUCER AND LDC
PRESSURE FOR ITS INCLUSION WILL BE IRRESISTIBLE. GOF
REPORTEDLY BELIEVES CONSUMERS COULD TRY TO SHUNT THIS
ITEM INTO SUB-COMMITTEE AND FOCUS DISCUSSION ON OIL AND
ENERGY ISSUES.
(C) ON MODALITIES, FRENCH WILL PRESIDE AT PREPARATORY
MEETING AND WILL ISSUE INVITATIONS FOR MEETING AT
APPROPRIATE TIME. PREPCON WOULD BE HELD UNDER FRENCH
CHAIRMANSHIP IN PARIS. (WILTON INDICATED FRENCH MADE

LATTER POINT VERY CLEAR.) ACCORDING TO WILTON, FRENCH
CLAIM THEY HAVE DISCUSSED THIS SCENARIO WITH PRODUCERS
WHO INDICATED AGREEMENT TO POINTS COVERED IN FRENCH
PROPOSAL.

7. MOST EC DELEGATIONS IN SPC APPEARED FAMILIAR WITH
FRENCH POSITION AS RELAYED BY WILTON. (ONE EC COUNTRY
DELEGATION INFORMED US EC HEARD FRENCH PRESENTATION
ITS POSITION DURING EC CAUCUS ON P/C DIALOGUE AT
MEETING EARLY JAN. 14 IN BRUSSELS. MISSION HAS OBTAINED
COPY OF EC PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT TO BE DISCUSSED AT
FON MIN MEETING NEXT WEEK. FRENCH TEXT BEING TRANSMITTED
SEPTEL.) FRG, NETHERLANDS AND UK INDICATED THEY COULD
SUPPORT FIRST THREE ITEMS ON FRENCH-PROPOSED AGENDA,
BUT FELT ITEM ON OTHER COMMODITY PRICES SHOULD NOT BE
OFFERED AT OUTSET, BUT ONLY PROPOSED LATER AS COMPROMISE.
8. AMONG NON-EC DELEGATIONS, JAPANESE APPEARED TO BE

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FAMILIAR WITH PROPOSAL AND COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON MOST ASPECTS INCLUDING FRENCH HOSTING. JAPANESE SUPPORTED FRENCH AGENDA WITH SAME CAVEAT AS EC DELS RE POINT 4. TURKS AND SWISS DID NOT INDICATE FIRECT FAMILIARITY WITH FRENCH SCENARIO BUT MADE DETAILED COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR P/C MEETING, REFLECTING DESIRE MOVE RAPIDLY TO MEETING.

9. ONLY US, CANADA AND SPAIN TOOK RESERVED POSITION ON FRENCH PROPOSAL. SPANISH REP SAID "GOS DOES NOT CONSIDER ITSELF BOUND BY ARRANGEMENTS DEVELOPED BY FRENCH" AND STRESSED THAT DECISIONS ON ALL ASPECTS OF P/C DIALOGUE SHOULD BE TAKEN IN IEA. CANADIAN REP (MACDOUGALL) POINTED OUT THAT DISCUSSIONS ON BASIS FRENCH SUGGESTION "ARE LIKE NEGOTIATING WITH DISEMBODIED SPIRIT", AND NOTED THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS HAD MENTIONED ALTERNATIVES TO FRENCH PROPOSAL.

10. ALONG LINES LAID OUT IN POSITION PAPER, US DEL REITERATED THAT US NOT COMMITTED TO HOLDING EVEN PREPARATORY MEETING UNTIL POLITICAL DECISION TAKEN THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN THREE KEY AREAS OF CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATE SOURCES, AND FINANCIAL SOLIDARITY. WHILE RECOGNIZING EXISTENCE OF FRENCH PROPOSAL, WE NOTED THAT ALTERNATIVES HAD BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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PUT FORWARD BY OTHER DELEGATIONS. WE EMPHASIZED THAT TASK OF SPC NOT TO ARRIVE AT CONSENSUS ON THIS ISSUE RATHER TO DEVELOP OPTIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO GB FOR ITS DECISION. **

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